

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

One embodiment of the disclosures made herein is a method for facilitating protection switching via failure prediction techniques. In accordance with such a method, an operation for monitoring a failure prediction parameter of at least one of the plurality of protected system elements is performed. During monitoring, an operation is performed for correlating a present state of the failure prediction parameter to a failure prediction criterion for determining whether one of the protected system elements has been met a failure prediction condition, thus identifying a failure predicted one of a plurality of protected system elements when the failure prediction condition is met. An operation is performed for determining whether a protection switching priority among a collection of failure predicted system elements applies to the failure predicted one of the protected system elements. In response to protection switching priority applying to the failure predicted one of the protected system elements or the failure predicted one being the only failure predicted system element, an operation is performed for downloading service information of the failure predicted one of the protected system elements to the protection system element. An operation is next performed for confirming failure of the failure predicted one of the protected system elements. Then, an operation is performed for switching communication service supported by the failure predicted one of the protected system elements for being supported by to the protection system element.